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No. 17

House of Representatives

The House met at 9 a.m. and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. HULTGREN).

DESIGNATION OF THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Speaker:

WASHINGTON, DC,
January 29, 2014.

I hereby appoint the Honorable RANDY HULTGREN to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

JOHN A. BOEHNER,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, the Reverend Patrick J. Conroy, offered the following prayer:
We give You thanks, O God, for giving us another day.

As You make available to Your people the grace and knowledge to meet the needs of the day, we pray that Your spirit will be upon the Members of this people's House, giving them the richness of Your wisdom.

Bless the Members of the majority party as they gather these next days. May they, with those who accompany them, travel safely and meet in peace.

Bless also the minority party as they prepare their own gathering. May these days be filled with hopeful anticipation.

May the power of Your truth and our faith in Your providence give them all the confidence they must have to do the good work required for service to our Nation. Give all Members the strength of purpose and clarity of mind to do those things that bring justice and mercy to people, and maintain freedom and liberty for our land.

May all that is done this day be for Your greater honor and glory.
Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day's proceedings and announces to the House his approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1, rule I, the Journal stands approved.

Mr. WOMACK. Mr. Speaker, pursuant to clause 1, rule I, I demand a vote on agreeing to the Speaker's approval of the Journal.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the Speaker's approval of the Journal.

The question was taken; and the Speaker announced that the ayes appeared to have it.

Mr. WOMACK. Mr. Speaker, I object to the vote on the ground that a quorum is not present and make the point of order that a quorum is not present.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8, rule XX, further proceedings on this question will be postponed.

The point of no quorum is considered withdrawn.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Will the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. BARLETTA) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. BARLETTA led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair will entertain up to five requests for 1-minute speeches on each side of the aisle.

HONORING JAY "BUCK" SWISHER

(Mr. BARLETTA asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. BARLETTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Jay "Buck" Swisher upon his retirement as a field representative for Pennsylvania's 11th Congressional District.

A lifelong resident of Pennsylvania, Buck graduated from Biglerville High School in 1968 and attended the DeVry Institute of Technology in Chicago, Illinois. He entered the United States Army, serving as an instructor and radar technician in the Signal Corp from 1970 to 1973. After leaving the Army, Buck dedicated 30 years to the telephone industry.

Buck began working as a field representative for Congressman Todd Platts in September 2003 before coming to work in my Carlisle office in January 2013. Throughout more than 10 years of Federal service, he has assisted countless residents of Cumberland County with everything from Medicare to the presentation of Girl Scout and Boy Scout awards.

Outside the office, Buck is an active member of the Cumberland County community. He is a devoted husband to his wife, Diane, and a proud father to four daughters and has three grandchildren.

Mr. Speaker, for over 10 years, Buck Swisher has shown outstanding dedication to Cumberland County. I commend him on his hard work and commitment, and I wish him the best on his retirement. He will be greatly missed.

DEBT CEILING

(Mr. WELCH asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. WELCH. Mr. Speaker, I understand our Republican colleagues are

□ This symbol represents the time of day during the House proceedings, e.g., □ 1407 is 2:07 p.m.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.



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